

Idaho libraries promoting economic recovery

With 141 locations in Idaho, public libraries play a critical role in public access to online services and resources in workforce development, e-government, and education.

In Idaho, library users go to libraries to:

- find jobs
- create new careers
- improve skills
- learn to use the latest technology
- get the tools and information needed to reenter the workforce
- help grow small businesses
- get questions answered
- engage in civic and community activities

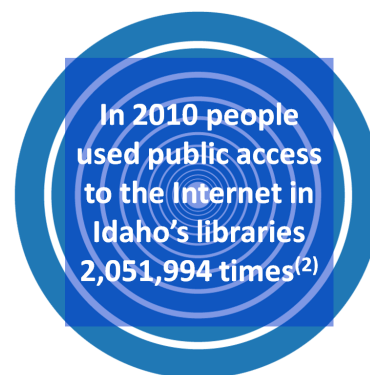
See more about Idaho public libraries at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/2010-fy-public-library-statistics>



Over 70% of Idaho's public libraries are the only free source of Internet access in their communities. ⁽¹⁾

Libraries provide a vital link to technology and information.

From American Library Association State Facts at www.districtdispatch.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/ALA_LegDay-ID.pdf



56 of Idaho's least connected public libraries are participating in the Idaho Commission for Libraries' Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) project to:

- upgrade public computing resources
- expand access to the Internet and online resources statewide
- provide free access to job skills training and adult basic education for the unemployed, as well as informal learning resources for children

See more about the "online @ your library" BTOP project at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/landing/online-your-library>

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Career Assistance

92.6% of Idaho's public libraries help people access and use employment resources, helping with:

- job searches
- creating resumes
- submitting employment applications⁽¹⁾

Public libraries also partner with the Idaho Department of Labor to provide access to the Idaho Career Information System, IdahoWorks, and other Labor resources.



E-gov Access

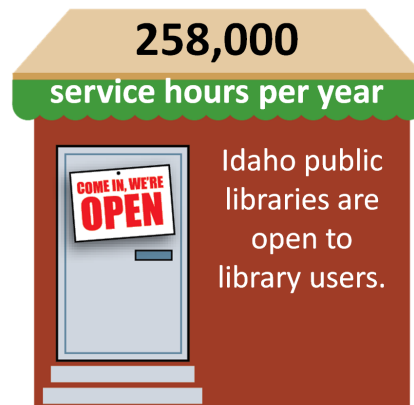
91.0% of Idaho's public libraries serve as the bridge between government and its services, offering:

- free Internet access to e-government
- assistance to help people complete online government forms⁽¹⁾



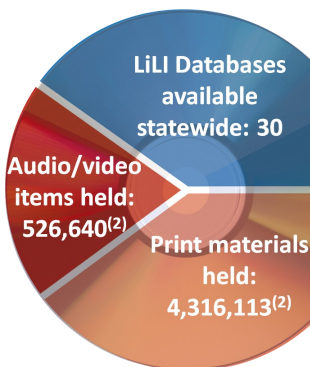
Computer Training

81.9% of Idaho's public libraries offer computer and other technical training, helping people gain essential technology skills for the 21st Century workforce.⁽¹⁾



Public Service

In 2010, people visited Idaho's public libraries 8,318,902 times.⁽²⁾



Resources

Idaho libraries offer access to Libraries Linking Idaho (LiLI) Databases. They also lend books, DVDs, games, and more.



Library Users

799,398 registered borrowers in Idaho⁽²⁾

(1) American Library Association State Facts at www.districtdispatch.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/ALA_LegDay-ID.pdf

(2) Idaho Public Library Statistics at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/2010-fy-public-library-statistics>